

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 6, 11-12, 14 and 16-18 are pending in the present application.

The Examiner has required restriction in the above-referenced application to one of the Groups I through III.

l Applicants hereby elect the invention of Group I with traverse.

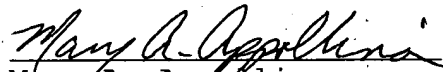
These are two criteria for a proper restriction requirement between patentably distinct inventions: (1) the inventions must independent or distinct as claimed; and (2) there must be a serious burden on the Examiner if restriction is not required. MPEP 803. Applicants agree with the Examiner's findings that the alleged separate inventions are patentable over each other; however, Applicants urge that there is no serious burden on the Examiner in combining the restricted groups into one application.

Specifically, since the invention of group (II), i.e., claim 12 drawn to a method of preparing a pharmaceutical composition, depends from claim 1, the Examiner need only search the invention of Claim 1. If Claim 1 is found to be allowable, then claim 12 (which depends from Claim 1) must also be allowable. Moreover, with regard to the invention of Group (III), i.e., Claims 14, 16 and 17 drawn to methods and compositions of more than one active ingredient, the Examiner need only search the invention of Claim 1 (i.e., the compounds), and if Claim 1 is found to be allowable, then claims 14, 16 and 17 directed to methods and compositions of the compounds of Claim 1 and another antiviral compound must also be allowable. Since there is no serious burden on the Examiner in combining the restricted groups into one application, Applicants

respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the restriction requirement.

Early favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary A. Appollina
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 34,087

Johnson & Johnson
One Johnson & Johnson Plaza
New Brunswick, NJ 08933-7003
(732) 524-3742
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